

Appl. No. : 10/068,465
Filed : February 6, 2002

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed November 4, 2003, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-3 and 5-29 and allowed Claims 4 and 30-32. In the present Amendment and Response to Office Action, Applicants have amended Claims 2-3, 5, 8-10, 12 and 28 and have cancelled Claims 1, 14-27 and 29. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and full consideration of the remarks contained herein.

Allowable Subject Matter and Amendments to the Claims

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for allowing Claims 4 and 30-32.

To expedite prosecution of the present Application, Applicants have cancelled independent Claims 1, 14, 19 and 25. In addition, Applicants have amended Claims 2, 3, 5, 8-10 and 12, formerly depending from cancelled Claim 1, to depend from allowed Claim 4, which incorporates all the limitations of cancelled Claim 1. Similarly, Claim 28 has been rewritten to depend from allowed Claim 30, rather than cancelled Claim 25. Because Applicants have merely changed the dependencies of dependent claims, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments add no new matter and are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2, 3, 5, 8-10, 12 and 30 are in condition for allowance.

No New Issues

Because the amendments to Claims 2, 3, 5, 8-10, 12 and 30 simply change their dependencies so that they depend from allowed claims, Applicants submit that these amendments raise no new issues requiring additional searching.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-3 and 5-29 as unpatentable over by Heim et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,465,185) in view of various secondary references. While Applicants do not acquiesce in the rejections and respectfully submit that the art of record does not render the rejected claims unpatentable, Applicants have nevertheless cancelled and amended certain of the claims to expedite prosecution of the present Application. In view of the amendments to the

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claims, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections are moot and that the pending claims are allowable over the art of record.

CONCLUSIONS

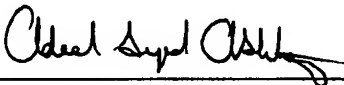
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request entry of the amendments and submit that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same. If some issue remains which the Examiner feels may be addressed by Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned for authorization.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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